



## VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

### Task Force Meeting Minutes June 9th, 2020

**Present:** ARC, BRK, GLN, MRV, MPK, PAS, SGB, SMD, SNM, SPS, FCSS Leary, Jason P., Oscar B., Dr. Loza

**Absent:** ALH, BUR, MTB

Meeting Conducted via Webex – [Recording here](#)

#### **Work Group update:**

- Review of emergency Task Force meeting concerning GPS dispatch sending the closest and changing 'districts.'
- Call Volume: the current focus is CAD fixes and adjustments. No new report.
- May Day: Chief Weddle reported on the latest RTG training module. LA City activates warble tone from IC at Command Post. Weddle and Ambrose to meet and discuss the next steps and how this would impact VFCC and Area C operations.
- Comm plan: Tabled while CAD is being adjusted/stabilized/improved.

#### **VFCC CAD updates:**

- One month into new CAD. Ambrose reported on pending issues, including a list of open and closed items with NG. A discussion that there are no longer 'districts' and 'fire blocks,' and now the system recommends the closest unit.
- Problems with station alerting. Several fixes were made, which then adversely impacted other agencies. This is a high priority item. Westnet was involved in pre-go live meetings and was aware of changes but is now requiring constant management to ensure changes are made. VFCC is manually alerting several stations in the interim. If you have station alert issues, please send the time/call number to VFCC. The issue is being addressed by both NG and Westnet.
- Several multi-faceted problems are not always new CAD but issues with City MDT hardware, cradle-points, or training.
- Many updates have been made to the MDT's. Still, unfortunately, not all terminals are taking the 'over the air' update without intervention. If you have an issue with an MDT, refer to the [FAQ list](#) and notify VFCC. Consider only calling the Shift Supervisor for emergencies such as no station alerting.

#### **VFCC staffing updates:**

- VFCC has promoted Jason Garrett to FCSS. We held open recruitment for FCO and will have approximately 400 to test for four positions. With FCSS Garrett promotion FCSS Soto will move to the 'fifth' supervisor position on the day shift. Manny will be working on CAD as well as training for new FCO recruits.
- FCSS Leary gave an update on IROC, IROC training, and our readiness for brush season. BC Ambrose showed a [video on WIFIRE](#). VFCC and GLN will be meeting with WIFIRE this week to bring this technology to Area C.



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#### **New Business:**

##### **Emergency Response without districts:**

- Ambrose reviewed discussion from the emergency task force meeting, and the agreed most essential items related to sending the closest units. Concerns for out of City response included: honoring agreements, the value of a home unit, Knox key access, and call types (priority level). In the early weeks of new CAD, there has been confusion since some areas within a City have now changed the responding unit (due to proximity). The group also agreed to fix the bigger picture issues before intra-city as well as make cautious changes not immediately to build walls.
- Call type change – shortly after the emergency meeting, lower priority calls were changed to recommend the home unit.
- Ambrose reviewed the options new CAD provides such as poll home unit first, send closest always, send closest plus home unit, adjust time differential, create ATOMs (the original fire block)
- Chief Rueda recommended a focused single-purpose meeting in the next week to make recommendations. Chief Ambrose will set up a meeting, and FCSS Soto will be working on this project.
- Chief Ambrose also recommended that smaller issues related to City borders and response to target hazards can be solved with those agencies and will set up meetings with MRV and ARC.
- Chief Alvarez expressed concern over MDT and access to supplemental information. BRK IT division had adjusted their MDT's to have a larger font. This information is provided in the FAQ. Also, Active 911 accounts were offered to agencies who would like to try it while MDT's are being improved. NG has promised a 3rd Quarter update to improve MDT mapping.
- Most of the MDT design was approved last year, although Jason P. may be able to make changes and improvements once several other items are stabilized in CAD.
- Each agency to provide a priority list of 'district' and target hazard changes they would like in their City.
- AVRR was explained. The information is posted on the FAQ.

##### **Civil Unrest/Emergency Mode Policy**

- Discussion on updating Equake/Emergency mode policy to include Civil Unrest. Chief Rueda to provide template examples. Ambrose and Rueda to meet and discuss.
- Chief Rueda discussed Firescope and how the emergency mode is a version of Area Command. This was also discussed at the Area C chiefs meeting.

##### **Strike Teams and COVID19**

- Presentation on NMAC COVID checklist and new expectations for personnel on Strike Teams. (Form attached)



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#### **Arcadia Second Alarm Fire (Spriggs)**

Chief Spriggs was called away to a reported brush fire.

- BC Ambrose discussed VFCC issues related to CAD on the fire. The system recommended an incorrect number of units for the second alarm. The floor crew handled this very well, and the adjustments were made to CAD to fix this coding. This will be left for the next meeting for Spriggs to discuss as a 'significant incident' with lessons learned.

#### **Roundtable**

GLN – Will be taking delivery of OES Type 3 over the original Type 6 in addition to current OES WT 11. Also, getting an Agency Type 6. Interviews/recruitment resulted in expected 11-13 for the late August academy.

PAS – Will be getting an OES Type 6 with no delivery date. This is their first OES resource and welcomes any assistance with policy and procedure. They are currently running a recruit academy. VFA is providing the ALA certification.

SGB – Also will be getting an OES Type 6 and welcome assistance with policy and procedure. One new FF hitting the floor with orientation. Currently, six vacancies with the expected test soon.

MPK – FF recruitment now. Captain's exam on Thursday of this week.

SMD – no report

MRV – Will be receiving a new tiller aerial truck. We will be doing tiller training in late July. MRV welcomes any policy and procedure for the tiller truck.

SPS – not getting CAD data for auto aid with LA County

SNM – nothing to report

BRK – Currently, six FF recruits in the tower. Ongoing recruitment as well as FCTC test hosted at BRK. We need to fill 8-10 vacancies.

Dr. Loza – Covid19 is still a threat. They noticed a spike at LA County USC. The majority of cases from SNF's but remain vigilant. It is expected to fester, and we will likely see another wave.

A reminder that 834.1, treat and refer, was retracted by EMS Agency. COVID 19 screening will continue UFN.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: July 14, 2020 at 0900 Location TBD/Webex**